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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,629	04/08/2004	Naohisa Kasako	81940.0075	8503
24956	7590	03/28/2006	EXAMINER	
MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C. 1800 DIAGONAL ROAD SUITE 370 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			GOGIA, ANKUR	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2187	

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Notice of Non-Compliant  
Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)**

Application No.

10/820,629

Examiner

Ankur Gogia

Applicant(s)

KASAKO ET AL.

Art Unit

2187

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

The amendment document filed on 30 December 2005 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required.

THE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☐ 1. Amendments to the specification:
- ☐ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
  - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
  - ☐ C. Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
- ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
  - ☐ B. Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings:
- ☐ A. The drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d).
  - ☐ B. The practice of submitting proposed drawing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings showing amended figures, without markings, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.
  - ☐ C. Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ 4. Amendments to the claims:
- ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
  - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
  - ☐ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended).
  - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
  - ☒ E. Other: Text has been deleted without use of strike-through or double brackets.
- ☐ 5. Other (e.g., the amendment is unsigned or not signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4):  
\_\_\_\_\_

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714.

**TIME PERIODS FOR FILING A REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:**

1. Applicant is given **no new time period** if the non-compliant amendment is an after-final amendment or an amendment filed after allowance. If applicant wishes to resubmit the non-compliant after-final amendment with corrections, the **entire corrected amendment** must be resubmitted.
2. Applicant is given **one month**, or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the correction, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action. If any of above boxes 1. to 4. are checked, the correction required is only the **corrected section** of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

**Extensions of time** are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a) only if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action.

**Failure to timely respond** to this notice will result in:

**Abandonment** of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a *Quayle* action; or

**Non-entry** of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE), if applicable

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Examiner acknowledges the amendment dated December 30, 2005, in response to the Office Action of September 30, 2005. The amendment amends claims 32-34, 38-48, 50 and 53-54, cancels claims 35-37, 49, 51-52 and 55-75 and introduces new claims 76-88. Therefore, claims 32-34, 38-48, 50, 53-54 and 76-88 remain pending. The instant application has a total of 30 claims pending in the application; there are 6 independent claims and 24 dependent claims, all of which are ready for examination by the examiner.

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. It is noted that the applicant has stated that they filed a Terminal Disclaimer with their response to the Office Action, however the Terminal Disclaimer does not appear to be in the record.

3. The amendment to the claims filed on December 30, 2005 does not comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121(c) because the amendments to the claims do not follow the proper form set forth in 37 CFR 1.121(c). Specifically, text has been deleted from the claims without the use of strike-through or double brackets. For example, original claim 32 states, in the third paragraph, "said storage device **being** coupled" and the amended claim 32 states "said ~~second~~ first storage device coupled." The text "being" has been deleted without the use of strike-through or double brackets. It is noted that there are multiple instances of similar issues. Amendments to the claims filed on or after July 30, 2003 must comply with 37 CFR 1.121(c) which states:

(c)(2) *When claim text with markings is required. The text of any deleted matter must be shown by strike-through except that double brackets placed before and after the deleted characters may be used to show deletion of five or fewer consecutive characters. The text of any deleted subject matter must be shown by being placed within double brackets if strike-through cannot be easily perceived.*

Since the reply filed on December 30, 2005 appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH** or **THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to submit an amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

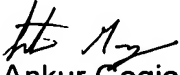
#### ***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ankur Gogia whose telephone number is 571-272-4166. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on 571-272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

3/20/06

  
Ankur Gogia  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2187

  
DONALD SPARKS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER